

HI SCHOOL HI LIGHTS

By MURIEL BELL

Buster Whitaker, a former fellow sufferer of Torrance High School, came to visit his old school mates Sunday afternoon.

On a hunting trip Sunday in Mrs. Wieg's Cabbage Patch, Martin Gilbert and Wilfred Tidland were able to make two shots between them.

Mary Hinman entertained the Gloom Chasers at Dooley's home last Wednesday evening.

From reports of the other girls who have been initiated into the Gloom Chasers club it is a horrible experience.

A short meeting of the Schumann Society was held in the music room Thursday.

Parke and Charles Montague, feeling full of pep, went to Venice Sunday to spend the day.

A new amusement has been discovered by Ethel and Bill Lanz and the Currier brothers.

Slumberless nights are plenty of fun, but not so good on the studies the next day.

They're so unusual, these seniors are. Thursday they gave the whole school a shock.

A showcase has been built in the new science building which is to be part of the home economics department.

Pipe Line To Be Laid On 208th St. And Normandie Ave.

The Los Angeles City Council instructed the city attorney to prepare an ordinance for franchise to the General Pipe Line Company of California to lay pipe on 208th street and Normandie avenue from San Francisco street to Amelia street.

FREE BATTERY SERVICE—WHO PAYS FOR IT?

The automobile editor drove into Harvel's Service Station at 1618 Cravens avenue the other day to get his old battery fixed.

There was no indication of a charge, however, on the test card he handed us as he smilingly turned his attention to the next customer.

He laughed, and waved us into a chair. "For one thing, we have gained the biggest battery business in Torrance, and we don't charge any more for our batteries to cover the cost of our service."

As we drove away, we wondered whether the world wouldn't be much better off if a lot more business were founded on the same principle.

Evening High School

Monday evenings from seven till eight o'clock there will be a class in color study, which will prove particularly interesting to those interested in designing, crafts work, interior decoration, dress design, etc.

Tuesday evenings from 7 until 9 the life drawing class will meet under the direction of Miss Ada Chase.

Wednesday evenings from 7 until 9, the Handcraft classes meet for instruction on lamp shade making, crayon work, and other work of particular value to commercial art students.

Reedcraft students meet from 7 till 9 on Thursday evenings for instruction in basket making.

After the Thanksgiving vacation, Arts and Crafts classes will be held in room 208, the Art studio.

Landscape class, under the direction of Mr. S. E. Merrill, was given a demonstration on budding and proper soil mixture last Monday evening in the 14th house, which was recently wired to accommodate evening classes.



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"Penco Flyer"

"Penco Flyer" steel are of de luxe construction withstand the kind of haul that boys give them.

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"Little Jim" All Steel Plaything

This sturdy steel truck with green chassis red dump box is 23 1/2" long, 6 1/2" inches wide, 4 1/2" high.

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Give him that elect set this Christmas. Sure to see our first styles. All with electric combs with head-like curved and straight trim.

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TWO

State Affairs

(Continued)

ing, listens to complaints, has mandatory powers over the State government in the allocation and adjustment of taxation problems.

Last week the ties that bind Governor Young's administration and the State Board of Equalization, considerably strained during the past three months, seemed near the breaking point.

Reason: The Association of States on Bank Taxation met in Chicago last week in an attempt to untangle the maze of financial losses into which states with net income taxes were plunged by the recent U. S. Supreme Court decision (Macallen vs. Massachusetts) holding so-called tax exempt securities immune as bases for state taxation of banks.

Rioted, indignant, Secretary Pierce dictated a letter of rebuke to the Governor. He pointed out, with pithy explanation, his attempts to secure gubernatorial approval for his trip to Chicago; declared that he had contacted the Governor's secretaries and attempted to interview the Governor himself, but that permission was not forthcoming.

To determine the Governor's opinion on his attendance at future meetings of the association, Secretary Pierce would say nothing.

When the State Legislative Tax Investigating Committee held its fortnightly session last week at San Francisco, committee members heard complaints, suggestions from real estate men, title companies, banks, public utilities.

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association of Land Title Companies, lamented the fact that "land and improvements are paying far more than a fair share of taxes."

Backing O'Sullivan's lament, suggested relief was Henry E. Monroe, who went a step farther, suggested the following: Only property owners should be permitted to vote upon bond issues in the various political subdivisions.

Said he: "We must put real estate upon a fairly equitable basis with other classes of property in this State if California is to be developed by domestic and outside capital."

There to represent the legislative and taxation committee of the American Bankers' Association was Vincent K. Butler. He reviewed the tax muddle caused by the recent U. S. Supreme court decision regarding taxation of banks (see "Tempest, Teapot").

Suggested relief: An amendment to the Federal statutes in question whereby taxes would be imposed on bank shares, the share value to be measured by the dividend paid plus capital, surplus and undivided profits.

For 10 years L. E. Ross has been State Vital Statistician. He is employed under civil service.

Last week Public Health Director Dickie and State Vital Statistician Ross held a conference behind locked doors in Room 402 of the State Office Building at Sacramento.

Soon it became known to employees of the Public Health Department that the department Director Dickie had suspended Statistician Ross for 30 days without pay, that if his resignation was not forthcoming by Monday of this week, Director Dickie would file formal charges against him with the State Civil Service Commission.

Reasons for Ross' suspension: 1) "incompetence and neglect of duty"; 2) "unwillingness to discontinue outside activities which are objectionable to the department."

With Capitol newsmen, Suspended Statistician Ross would not discuss his conference with Director Dickie. But he did say: "I have never been requested by anyone connected with the department to discontinue any activities not connected with my services but was nevertheless preemptorily suspended. I am willing to discontinue any outside activities which might be objectionable to Dr. Dickie, but I do not believe that the present matter has been handled with a view to justice."

Director Dickie would not discuss the matter with newsmen. But meanwhile auditors of the Department of Finance started checking Statistician Ross' records and books, at the request of Dr. Dickie.

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CALIFORNIA NEWS REVIEW

Still a Reservoir

In 1928 California spent some 200 per cent more for schooling its young than it did in 1918. To aid cities and counties in their educational programs for the fiscal year ending June 1930, the State will have spent \$17,275,277.17.

Long worried because of the mounting expenditures for education, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction Vierling Kersey, he wanted to know how nearly assessed values were approaching true values of taxable property.

Making the nearest approach in assessed valuations to true values, Alpine, with a ratio of 65, Calaveras with 60, Mariposa and Plumas with 50, and Sierra with 60, Statistician Morgan found, were outstanding examples of the rapid approach to true valuations among the so-called mountain counties.

Classified by Chief Morgan as "rich counties": Santa Barbara with a ratio between assessed and true value of 29, Ventura with 28, San Bernardino with 26, Kern with 32, San Luis Obispo with 33, San Diego with 28, Orange with 30, Merced with 29, Sonoma with 29.

Ratios for other southern counties: Los Angeles with 47, a gain of 5 points from the preceding 12 months; Imperial gained six points to 50, Kern dropped 21 to 37.

Political Notes

The Candidates

Still mum concerning his candidacy was Governor Young last week. Candidate & Controller Ray L. Riley was in Southern California for a political caucus, a speech-making junket before service clubs.

Senator Nelson T. Edwards, of Orange, long rumored as a candidate, issued a formal statement declaring he was not a candidate and was not participating in conferences of aspirants.

District Attorney Buron Fitts, of Los Angeles County, correspondents agreed, had "more or less abandoned his gubernatorial dreams, at least for the ensuing term." One correspondent reported and apparently took seriously a rumor that Buron Fitts was considering the possibility of running against U. S. Webb for the attorney generalship.

Senator Frank Merriam, of Long Beach, chairman of the State Republican Committee, on a time Speaker of the Assembly, according to several pundits, "is definitely out of the running and will hitch his wagon to a congressional star, rather than the gubernatorial one."

Cole Salling, campaign manager for Los Angeles Mayor Porter, who announced his candidacy a fortnight ago (News Review, Nov. 18-24) with the statement he would run as "a genuine Hoover Republican," was conceded little more than nominal personal support at the Capitol.

Senator H. C. Nelson, of Eureka, last week announced his candidacy for the lieutenant governorship, and won for himself the distinction of being the first and only declared candidate for that office. (See "The Governor.")

For Treasurer

Fortnight ago Frank J. Smith, former warden of San Quentin Prison and son-in-law of former Governor Richardson, announced his candidacy for the position of Charles G. Johnson as State Treasurer, the office his father-in-law held before he became Lieutenant Governor, then Governor.

Having dickered, Treasurer Johnson last week made an announcement. He announced: 1) He had withdrawn from the list of "potential candidates" for the governorship; 2) he had not at any time been "greatly exercised" over the governorship situation; 3) that he would "keep an open mind" on the possibility of making the race four years hence; 4) he was a candidate to succeed himself as State Treasurer.

"Said he: 'I am a candidate for re-election and will base my campaign on the record of office during my administration. Interest earnings on State funds have been greatly increased by keeping these funds always 'working.' Office expenses have been held to a minimum. My only campaign issue will be one of business administration of State business.'"

Measures

Into the steaming caldron of State politics as possible measures for the 1930 ballot last week were dumped prohibition, legislative reapportionment, daylight saving.

Reapportionment. The Twenty-Eighth Amendment to the State constitution, adopted by the 1929 Legislature, was designed to prevent control of the Legislature by "boss rule" of cities.

First elections under the new amendment will be held next year. But ready agitation is under way to repeal the amendment by referendum. Especially displeased by the legislative reapportionment law are the three large cities most affected.

Fortnight ago, at a meeting in Los Angeles, the All-Parties Reapportionment Committee (non-office holders) voiced loud and long complaints against the measure, announced that it would start a campaign to repeal the amendment.

Prohibition. Many times but futilely, has the Wright Act California enforcement law, been attacked. Last week the first hint of a new "wet" and "dry" fight came to light when, in Los Angeles, petitions were circulated for repeal of the Wright Act.

Whether the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment will join in the campaign last week appeared doubtful. William H. Metson, San Francisco director of the I. A. P. A., told newsmen: "It is doubtful. A great deal depends on the availability of a war chest to finance a vigorous, state-wide attack. If we have no money we'll have no campaign."

Daylight Saving. Reports reaching Secretary of State Jordan's office last week indicated that an initiative measure for daylight saving in California is planned by the group that has sponsored this proposal several times in the Legislature.

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Prohibition

Children's Crusade

Many a Mexican school child toiled long and diligently after school hours last week in Mexicali. With red and green paint they dabbed letters on white canvas, picked out words, inscriptions thus: "Do not drink, maintain your honor."

No youthful Carrie Nations, but bent upon carrying out their part of a nation-wide demonstration against intemperance were these 1200 Mexican school children. The parade over, the children broke ranks, scurried off to make the day a holiday.

Thrice Guilty

Vigilant and zealous is Pomona in the enforcement of its laws. Last month in that city an ordinance was passed permitting registered pharmacists to sell only one bottle of wine tonic in eight days to the same purchaser, to keep an available record of all sales.

Not so Pomona Druggist Samuel Nason (News Review, Nov. 11-17). Less than a week after the edict had come forth, he was arrested, charged on three counts. They were: he had sold more than one bottle to a customer; he had not limited sales to one bottle per person every eight days; he had used fictitious names on the prescribed record.

Last week Pharmacist Nason sat stolidly in the courtroom, pleaded guilty to all three counts; was sentenced to pay a fine of \$250 or to serve 180 days in the County Jail. The court approved Druggist Nason's penitent attitude, saw fit to suspend another jail sentence of 180 days, an additional fine of \$500.

Stockings, Wine

Mrs. Ernesta Jacobucci of Los Angeles earns \$16 a week—when she works. She is the sole support of her two children, 14 and 16. Her house is barren; there is no furniture in the living room. She and her two daughters sleep in one bed. The food is scarcely enough to enable them to exist.

Her friends said it would make her blood a bit richer, enable her to work harder, make more money for her children.

But Bessie, her 16-year-old daughter, needed stockings to wear to school. A stranger offered Mrs. Jacobucci \$2 for her wine. With that she would be able to buy stockings for Bessie.

Last week Mrs. Jacobucci's case came before Juvenile Judge Robert H. Scott, at Los Angeles. Said the judge: "Any woman who makes such sacrifices for her daughter is worthy of consideration. Any mother who is old-fashioned enough to get her daughter stockings is worthy of consideration. Case dismissed."

HITT AND RUNN—The Wiff Brought Out

